

Coins

A close call...for cooperation

By Roger Boye

THREE weeks after the robbery of his North Side coin shop, Louis [Lucky Lou] Goldstein is back on the job, where he says he is fortunate to be.

"The fellow shot me thru the head after I was on the floor . . . at close range from behind the ear," he says. If the bullet had traveled in an even slightly different direction, Goldstein would have been killed or would be paralyzed.

Goldstein, 52, was robbed in his shop at 3111 W. Devon Av. on Jan. 3. The loss of \$50,000 in coin and bullion is

covered by insurance.

The man who shot Goldstein, one of three holdup men, had been in the store three times previously, he says.

One safety precaution he is considering for the store he has owned for about 2½ years is adding a second, inner front door. Both doors would be equipped with a safety buzzer which would have to be sounded to obtain entry.

At the time of the robbery, he had a safety buzzer on the front door, and a holdup alarm in the shop.

Goldstein also wants more cooperation between coin

dealers "on a general basis, not just after something happens.

"Just think if, a week before the robbery, someone would have brought mug shots around of this guy [the gunman who shot him]. I could have identified him."

Greater cooperation would also allow dealers to become more aware of stolen or counterfeit coins.

ALTHO the United States government tried five times the last 2½ years to sell all of its Carson City silver dollars, it still has 900,000 coins unsold. And, it appears, the dollars will remain unsold

for the next three years.

The General Services Administration [GSA] has recommended storing the dollars for at least three years in order to revitalize the market and to avoid competition with collector issues being produced for the nation's bicentennial, according to Numismatic News.

The Carson City silver dollars dated in the 1800s were discovered in 1964 in government vaults, and Congress authorized the GSA to sell them. About two million dollars were sold in the five sales, netting the government a \$55 million profit.